

Washington, DC – Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1) today announced the launch of America's First District 2011 Congressional Art Competition, An Artistic Discovery. All high school students living in the First District are eligible to enter their work in the competition, by the April 29, 2011 submission deadline.

"I am excited to announce this competition, and encourage students to enter their original artwork for the chance to display their work in our nation's capital," Wittman said. "This is a great opportunity for the talented, aspiring artists in our area to showcase their talents."

Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressional Art Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent in the nation, as well as in each congressional district. An Artistic Discovery is open to all high school students. The over-all winner of each participating district will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. All entries submitted must be an original in concept, design and execution.

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for Members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nation-wide competition.

VIDEO invitation from Congressman Wittman: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SmqhDTPMO3c>

Full guidelines: <http://www.house.gov/house/2011-art-competition-guidelines-students.pdf>

Student application: <http://www.house.gov/house/2011-student-information-release-form.pdf>